

What is claimed is:

1. A damper comprising:

a pressure tube forming a working chamber;

a reservoir tube disposed around said pressure tube, said reservoir tube forming a reservoir chamber between said pressure tube and said reservoir tube;

a base valve assembly disposed between said working chamber and said reservoir chamber for regulating flow of damping fluid in a first direction between said working chamber and said reservoir chamber, said base valve assembly comprising:

a valve body defining a fluid passage;

a first valve disc disposed adjacent said valve body for closing said fluid passage, said first valve disc having an outside edge and a central axis;

a second valve disc disposed adjacent said first valve disc, said second valve disc having an outer chordal edge supporting said first valve disc at a position between said outside edge and said central axis of said first valve disc.

2. The damper according to Claim 1, further comprising a piston disposed within said working chamber, said piston dividing said working chamber into an upper portion and a lower portion, said base valve assembly being

disposed between said lower portion of said working chamber and said reservoir chamber.

3. The damper according to Claim 1, wherein said base valve assembly includes a pressure valve movable between a closed position and an open position, said pressure valve regulating said flow of said damping fluid in a second direction between said working chamber and said reservoir chamber, said second direction being opposite to said first direction.

4. A damper comprising:  
a pressure tube forming a working chamber;  
a piston disposed within said working chamber, said piston dividing said working chamber into an upper working and a lower working chamber;  
a reservoir tube disposed around said pressure tube, said reservoir tube forming a reservoir chamber between said pressure tube and said reservoir tube;

a base valve assembly disposed between said lower working chamber and said reservoir chamber for regulating flow of damping fluid in a first direction between said lower working chamber and said reservoir chamber, said base valve assembly comprising:

a low speed valve movable between a closed position and an open position, said low speed valve including a first valve disc having an outside edge and a central axis and a second valve disc supporting said first

valve disc along a chordal edge at a position between said outside edge and said central axis of said first valve disc; and

a mid/high speed valve movable between a closed position and an open position, said mid/high speed valve comprising said first and second valve disc.

5. The damper according to Claim 8, wherein said base valve assembly includes a pressure valve movable between a closed position and an open position, said pressure valve regulating said flow of said damping fluid in a second direction between said lower working chamber and said reservoir chamber, said second direction being opposite to said first direction.

6. A damper comprising;

a pressure tube forming a working chamber;

a piston disposed within said working chamber, said piston dividing said working chamber into an upper working chamber and a lower working chamber;

a piston valve assembly attached to said piston for regulating flow of damping fluid between said upper working chamber and said lower working chamber, said piston valve assembly comprising:

a low speed valve movable between a closed position and an open position, said low speed valve including a first valve disc having an outside edge and a central axis and a second valve disc supporting said first valve disc along a chordal edge at a position between said outside edge and said central axis of said first valve disc; and

a mid/high speed valve movable between a closed position and an open position, said mid/high speed valve comprising said first and second valve disc.